



PATENT
Attorney Docket No. 101.0058-03000
Customer No. 22882

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of)	Confirmation No. 5309
Gary K. Michelson)	
Serial No. 10/802,906)	Group Art Unit: 3731
Filed: March 17, 2004)	
For: SKELETAL PLATING SYSTEM)	

MS MISSING PARTS
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Sir:

AMENDMENT

Prior to the examination of the above-identified application, the following amendments and remarks are submitted:

Amendments to the Specification begin on page 2 of this paper.

Remarks begin on page 3 of this paper.

Amendments to the Specification:

Please replace paragraph 16 on page 15 with the following amended paragraph:

-- FIG. 43A ~~43~~ is an end view of the plate shown in FIG. 40 --.

Please delete paragraph 17 on page 15, which starts with "FIG. 43B is...".

Please delete paragraph 4 on page 19, which starts with "FIG. 95D is...".

Please replace the paragraph bridging pages 31 and 32 with the following amended paragraph:

-- Another embodiment of the present invention, the single locking plate system will now be described. FIGS. 40-45 are views of a first embodiment of a single locking plate system generally referred to by the numeral 600. Plate 600 has the same contour as plate 2 shown in FIGS. 1-5. Plate 600 has a bottom surface 27 for placement against bone portions, wherein a substantial portion of bottom surface 27 is either flat and/or convex along the longitudinal axis of the plate though a lesser portion of bottom surface 27 may be otherwise configured.

As shown in FIG. 43B ~~43~~, in another embodiment plate 600' has a bottom surface 627' that is substantially flat along the transverse axis of plate 600'. --.

Please replace paragraph 1 on page 41 with the following amended paragraph:

-- Referring to FIGS. 95A-95D ~~95C~~, an alternative embodiment of a plate of the present invention is shown and generally referred to by the numeral 3000.

Plate 3000 has a bottom surface 3027 that is convex along a substantial portion of the longitudinal axis of the plate and is concave along the transverse axis of the plate 3000. Plate 3000 has a single-locking element 3022 for locking a single bone screw 3030 to plate 3000. --.

Please delete paragraph 2 on page 41, which starts with "As shown in FIG. 95D,...".